

To: Sally Butts[sbutts@blm.gov]
Cc: Jeremy Bluma[jbluma@blm.gov]
From: Smale, Georgeann
Sent: 2017-12-14T14:14:03-05:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Fwd: 368 mapper depiction of G.S. Escalante NM
Received: 2017-12-14T14:14:21-05:00
Corridor 68-116 AZ UT Fatal Flaw Dec 13.docx

Sally,

Can you assist with the request below? We need input as soon as possible as we are working toward a Dec 19 deadline and I see that Britta is out-of -the-office until Monday.

For the West-wide energy corridor reviews, we have an online mapper available at <https://bogi.evs.anl.gov/section368/portal/>. We need some assistance on how to depict boundary changes for Grand Staircase Escalante.

See the email below for further and please let me know if you have any questions.

Georgeann

Georgeann Smale
Realty Specialist, Transmission / 368 Corridors
Bureau of Land Management

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bluma, Jeremy** <jbluma@blm.gov>
Date: Thu, Dec 14, 2017 at 1:09 PM
Subject: Abstracts that involve G.S. Escalante NM
To: Georgeann Smale <gsmale@blm.gov>

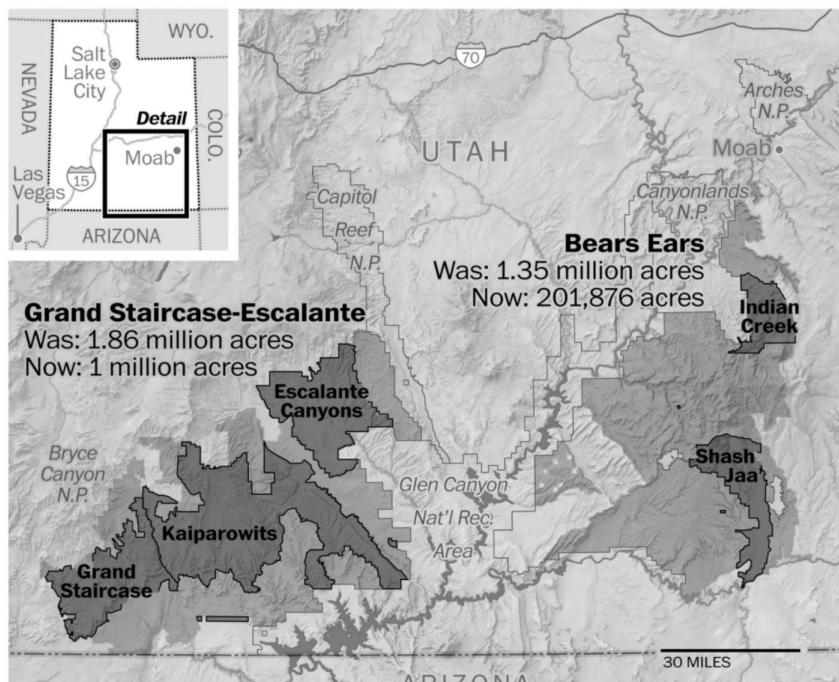
We need to get our heads-wrapped around this one.

With the recent Executive Action by the President (Dec. 4th) to shrink Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument, I'm wondering if we need to revise the map and analysis? Is the boundary-change considered complete? There was at least one lawsuit filed.

The corridor 68-116_AZ_UT appears that it will be outside of the Monument now. (see map below)

Changes to declared national monuments in Utah

● Original boundary ● New delineation



Who in DC do you think would know more? I would think WO-400

I've attached abstract 68-116 AZ UT.

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Jeremy Bluma
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Corridor 68 116

Section 368 Energy Corridor Regional Reviews Region 3

December 2017

Corridor 68-116

Page Corridor

Introduction

Corridor 68 116 (Figures 1 3) begins adjacent to the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area in Arizona, just south of the state border with Utah. The corridor extends northwest into Utah for 30 miles, then southwest for 20 miles, and ends at the intersection with Corridor 113 116 in Arizona. Federally designated portions of this corridor are entirely on BLM administered lands. The corridor is 5,280 feet wide within the Arizona Strip Field Office and is 3,500 feet wide within the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument and the Kanab Field Office. Corridor 68 116 is designated multi modal for future electrical transmission and pipeline projects. The corridor spans 50.6 miles, with 37.7 miles designated on BLM administered lands. The designated area is 18,798.5 acres or 29.4 square miles. Corridor 68 116 is in Coconino County in Arizona and Kane County in Utah. The corridor is under the jurisdiction of the BLM Arizona Strip Field Office, the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument and the Kanab Field Office. This corridor is entirely in Region 3.

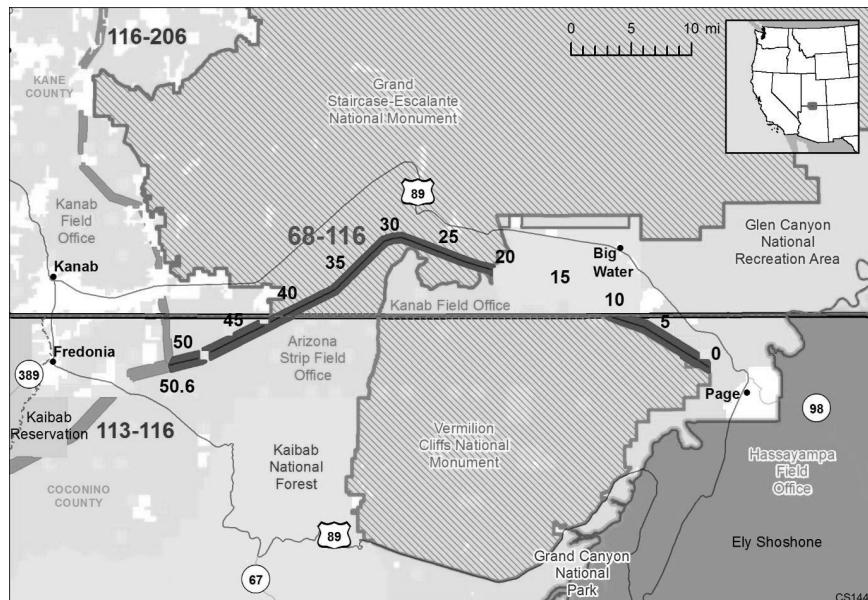
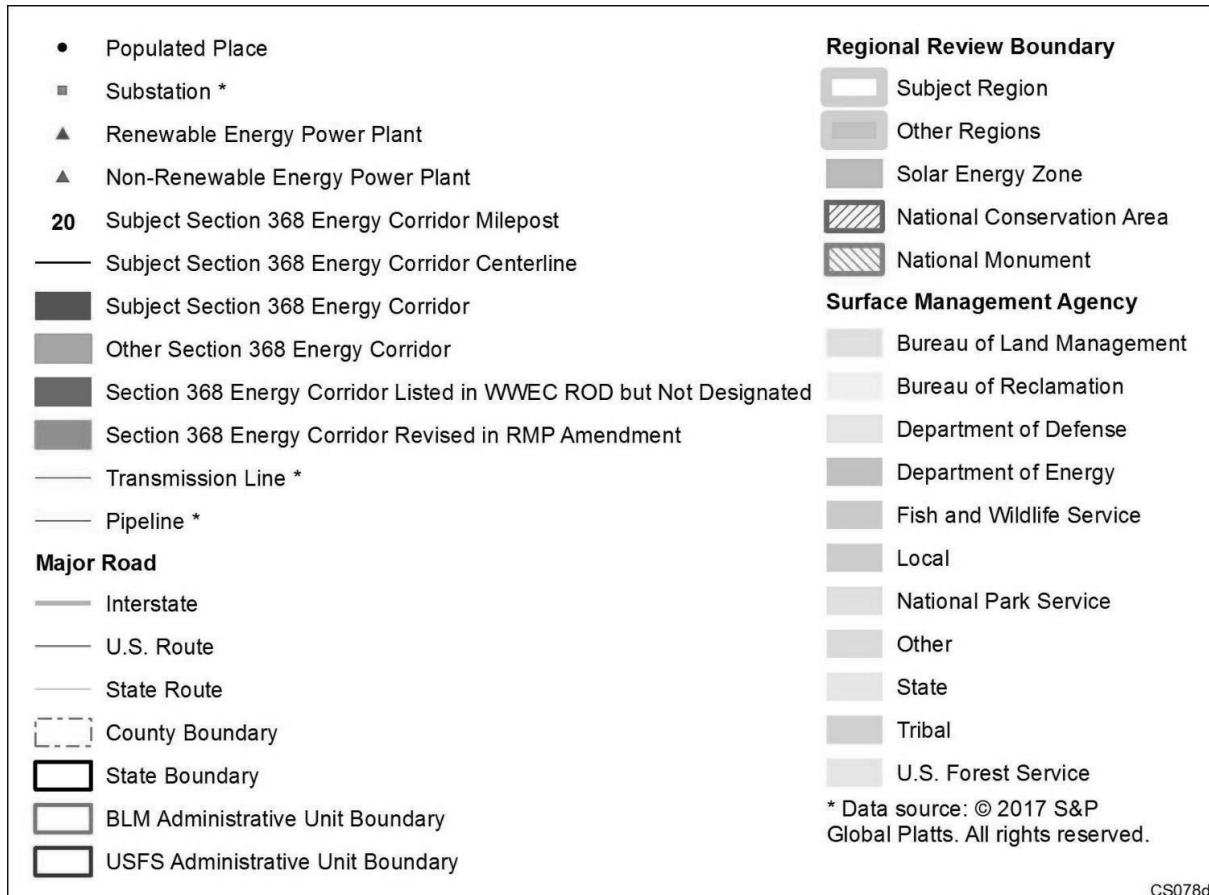


Figure 1. Corridor 68 116

Corridor 68 116

Section 368 Energy Corridor Regional Reviews Region 3

December 2017



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Key for All Figures

Corridor 68 116

Section 368 Energy Corridor Regional Reviews Region 3

December 2017

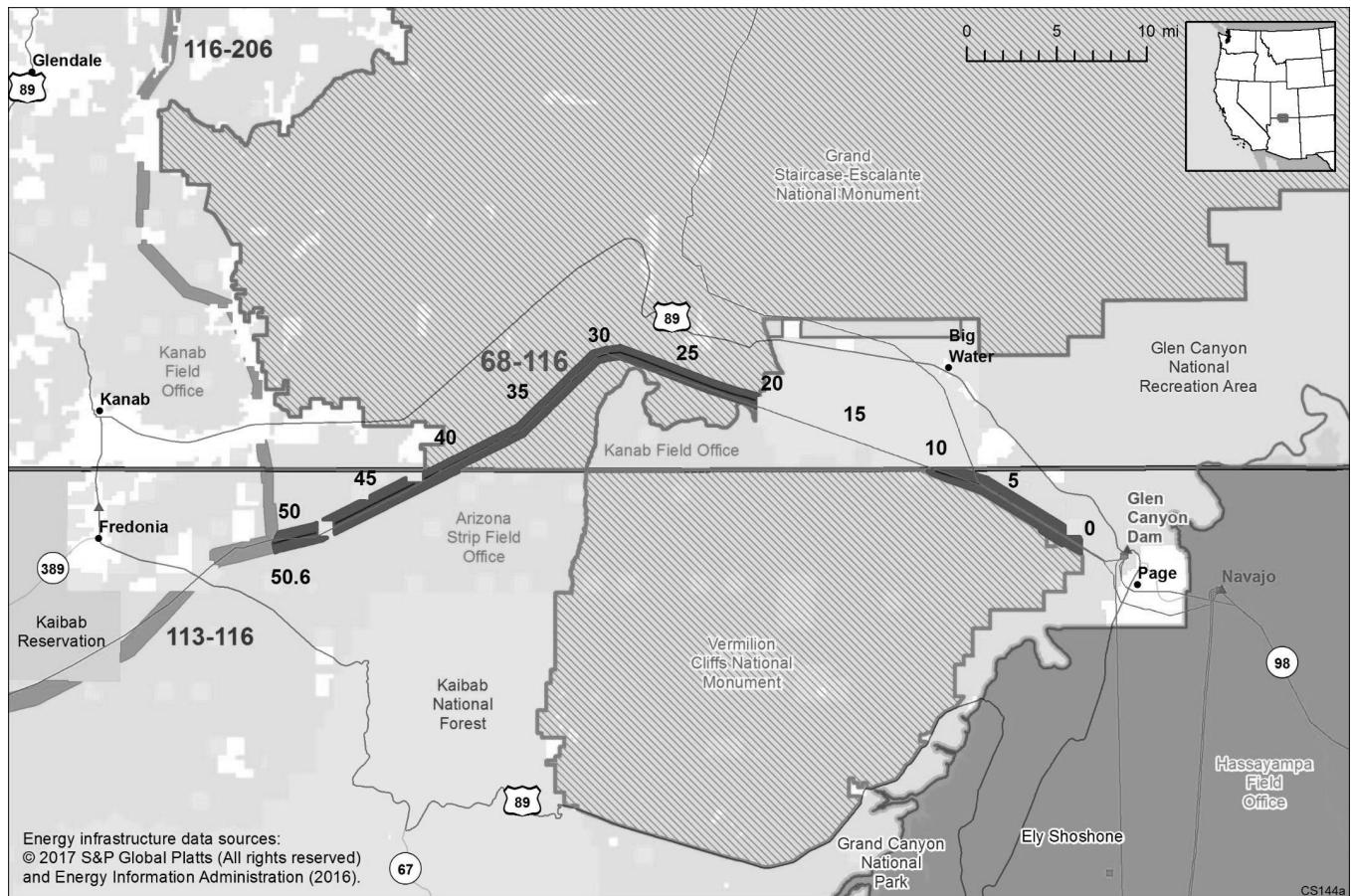


Figure 2. Corridor 68 116, Corridor 68-116, Including Existing Energy Infrastructure

Corridor 68 116

Section 368 Energy Corridor Regional Reviews Region 3

December 2017

Corridor Rationale

During scoping for the WWEC PEIS, routes generally following this corridor were suggested by National Grid, the Seams Steering Group Western Interconnection, and the Western Utility Group. The corridor was designated as a Section 368 energy corridor, consistent with a previously locally designated energy corridor in the Arizona Strip FO.

Existing Infrastructure: The corridor follows a 500 kV electric transmission line operated by Los Angeles Department of Water & Power along the entire length of its centerline. The corridor also follows a 69 kV electric transmission line operated by PacifiCorp from MP 0 to MP 27.4 and a 230 kV transmission line operated by PacifiCorp from MP 0 to MP 6.8.

Potential for Future Development: During interviews for the Corridor Study, Agencies indicated that there are multiple ROW applications for small local projects within the corridor and an application for an upgrade to the existing transmission in the Grand Staircase Escalante NM. According to the Platts data, there is no planned infrastructure within the corridor.

Corridor of Concern Status

This corridor was identified in the Settlement Agreement as a corridor of concern. Concerns regarding access to coal, impacts to Grand Staircase Escalante NM, Wild & Scenic Rivers, and a scenic byway were identified in Exhibit A of the Settlement Agreement. These issues are highlighted in yellow in the Corridor Analysis table.

Conflict Map Analysis

The map depicted in Figure 3 uses conflict criteria to depict areas where the corridor intersects low, medium, and high conflict areas to help the Agencies identify where a corridor intersects environmentally sensitive areas. The conflict criteria can be found on the WWEC Information Center at www.corridoreis.anl.gov. Corridor 68 116 follows high conflict areas from MP 0 to approximately MP 42 and follows medium conflict areas from MP 42 to MP 50.6. The area surrounding MP 0 to MP 42 is entirely within a high conflict area and does not provide opportunity to avoid those areas; however, there is existing infrastructure along the entire length of the corridor.

Corridor 68 116

Section 368 Energy Corridor Regional Reviews Region 3

December 2017

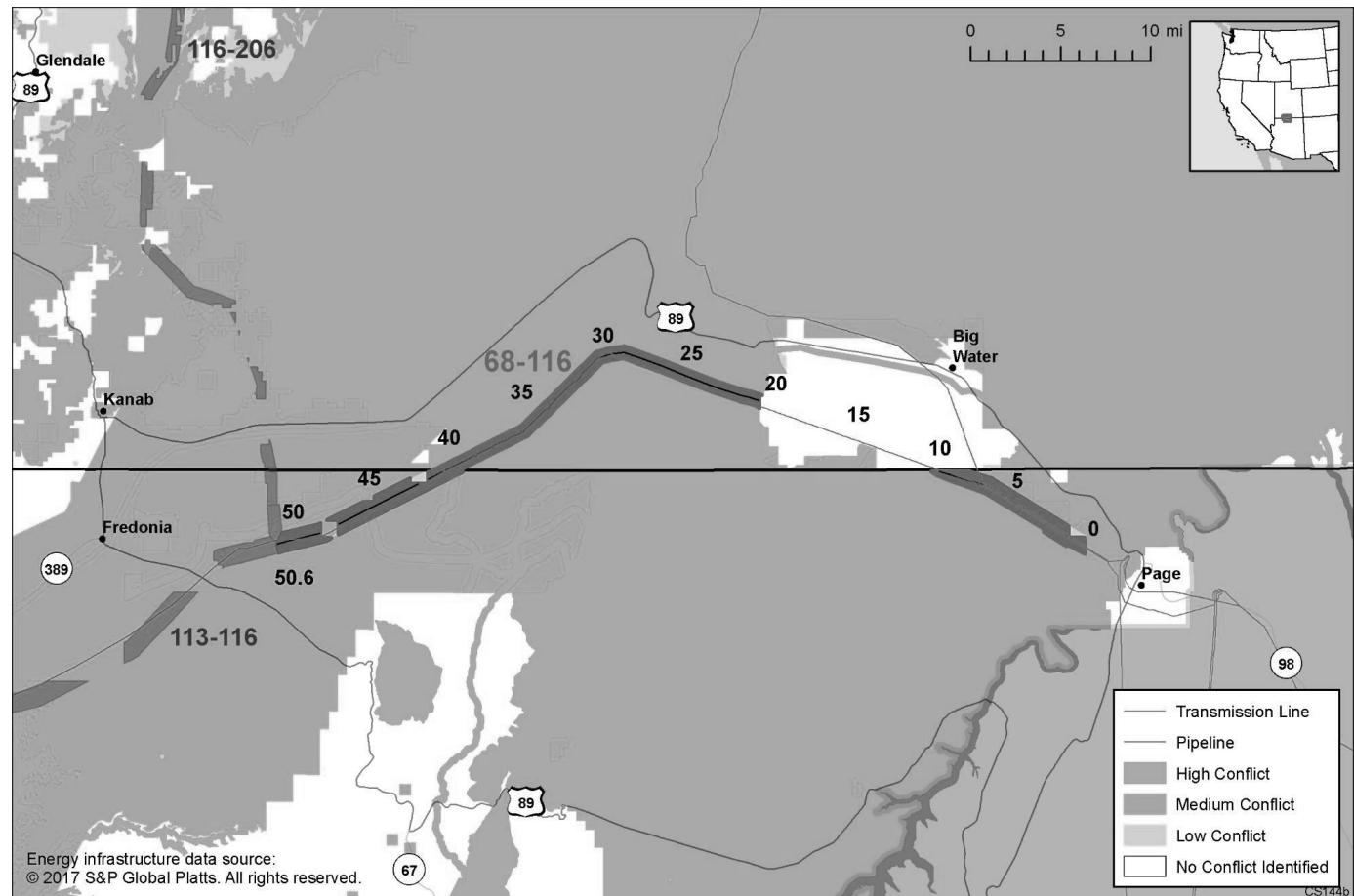


Figure 3. Mapping of Conflict Areas in Vicinity of Corridor 68 116

Corridor 68 116

Section 368 Energy Corridor Regional Reviews Region 3

December 2017

Corridor Analysis Table

The corridor analysis table below identifies issues potentially affecting Corridor 68 116, locations of resources within the corridor, and the results of the analysis by the Agencies. Issues are checked if they are known to apply to the corridor. Corridor of concern issues are highlighted in yellow.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy Planning Opportunities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Management Responsibilities and Environmental Resource Issues	<input type="checkbox"/> Livestock grazing
<input type="checkbox"/> Energy Planning Issues	<input type="checkbox"/> Air quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paleontology
<input type="checkbox"/> Physical barrier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Public access and recreation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jurisdiction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ecological resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Soils/erosion
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Existing infrastructure/available space	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrological resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specially designated areas
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lands and realty	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribal concerns
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lands with wilderness characteristics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visual resources
		<input type="checkbox"/> Interagency Operating Procedures

REGION 3 – CORRIDOR 68 116 ANALYSIS TABLE							
ID	Agency	Agency Jurisdiction	County	Primary Issue	Corridor Location (by Milepost [MP])	Source	Agency Review and Analysis ¹
ENERGY PLANNING OPPORTUNITIES							
68 116 .001	NPS	Glen Canyon NRA	Coconino, AZ	Glen Canyon Dam Hydroelectric Power Plant	MP 0	GIS Analysis: the Glen Canyon Dam Hydroelectric Power Plant (1,312 MW) is as close as 2.5 mi east of the beginning of the corridor.	The power plant provides an opportunity for the corridor to accommodate additional transmission.
68 116 .002	NPS	Glen Canyon NRA, Private land	Coconino, AZ and Kane, UT	Glen Canyon, Glen Canyon 1, TAP, and Unknown Substations	MP 0 and MP 28	GIS Analysis: there are four substations within 5 mi of corridor.	Nearby substations provide an opportunity for the corridor to accommodate additional transmission.
68 116 .003	BLM	Arizona Strip FO	Coconino, AZ	REDA	MP 1.3 to MP 1.8	GIS Analysis: a REDA is adjacent to the corridor.	The REDA provides an opportunity for the corridor to accommodate transmission tied to renewable energy development.
68 116 .004	NA		AZ	Access to coal	Not specified	Settlement Agreement RFI: re route to ensure connection to renewable energy resources.	BLM will consider additional corridor options through the Regional Review. Standard procedures for processing applications include developing

Corridor 68 116

Section 368 Energy Corridor Regional Reviews Region 3

December 2017

REGION 3 – CORRIDOR 68 116 ANALYSIS TABLE							
ID	Agency	Agency Jurisdiction	County	Primary Issue	Corridor Location (by Milepost [MP])	Source	Agency Review and Analysis ¹
							alternate routes for consideration and analysis. The REDA provides an opportunity for the corridor to accommodate transmission tied to renewable energy development.
ENERGY PLANNING ISSUES							
<i>Jurisdiction</i>							
68 116 .005	NPS	Glen Canyon NRA	Coconino, AZ	Glen Canyon NRA	MP 0	RFI: corridor crosses the southern end of Glen Canyon NRA. Consider adjusting corridor to eliminate crossing of NPS land in Glen Canyon NRA GIS Analysis: NRA is at one end of the corridor at MP 0	BLM can only authorize projects on BLM administered land. There are two existing transmission lines in the corridor gap within the NRA. Development within the NRA would require coordination with NPS.
<i>Existing Infrastructure and Space</i>							
68 116 .006	BLM	Arizona Strip FO	Coconino, AZ	NRA, other infrastructure	MP 0 to MP 0.5	GIS Analysis: Glen Canyon NRA, Town of Page, AZ, projects in corridor gap.	Glen Canyon NRA and existing infrastructure could affect the potential for additional future development within the corridor.
68 116 .007	BLM	Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument	Kane, AZ	Topography	MP 29.6 to MP 30.3	GIS Analysis: corridor crosses canyon.	Topography within the National Monument could affect the potential for additional development within the corridor.
LAND MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND RESOURCE ISSUES							
<i>Cultural Resources</i>							
68 116 .008	BLM	Kanab FO	Kane, Co	Cultural Resources	MP 10 20	GIS Analysis: there are National Register of Historic Places eligible Cultural Resource sites present within corridor.	There are no properties currently listed within the corridor nor any that could not be mitigated through the Section 106 Process.
<i>Ecology: Terrestrial Wildlife, Big Game, Birds, and Aquatic Biota</i>							
68 116 .009				Flowlines	Not specified.	RFI: re route to avoid "Very High" risk to the number and magnitude of flowline crossings by WWEC segments. Where flowlines must unavoidably be	Connectivity flowlines is not a BLM recognized term. Impacts on habitat connectivity would be addressed during the ROW application process

Corridor 68 116

Section 368 Energy Corridor Regional Reviews Region 3

December 2017

REGION 3 – CORRIDOR 68 116 ANALYSIS TABLE							
ID	Agency	Agency Jurisdiction	County	Primary Issue	Corridor Location (by Milepost [MP])	Source	Agency Review and Analysis ¹
						crossed, minimize impacts to connectivity.	and through management prescriptions in the RMP.
Hydrology							
68 116 .010	BLM	Grand Staircase Escalante NM, Arizona Strip FO, State land	Kane, UT and Coconino, AZ	Paria River and Intermittent Streams: Unknown (3)	MP 20.9 to MP 21.6, MP 30.1, and MP 36.2 to MP 36.4	GIS Analysis: Paria River and intermittent streams intersect corridor.	Not a consideration for corridor level planning. Linear ROWs can either span intermittent streams or be buried underneath them.
Lands and Realty: Military and Civilian Aviation							
68 116 .011	BLM	Arizona Strip FO	Coconino, AZ	MTR IR	MP 44.6 to MP 50.6	GIS Analysis: IR intersects corridor.	Adherence to IOP 1 under Project Planning in the WWEC PEIS RODs regarding coordination with DoD would be required.
Lands with Wilderness Characteristics							
68 116 .012				BLM inventoried lands with wilderness characteristics not managed for protection Citizens' proposed wilderness	Not specified.	RFI: Corridor 68 116 intersects the Paria Canyon, Exp. 4 lands with wilderness characteristics unit. This unit was analyzed in the 2008 Kanab RMP and is not managed to protect wilderness characteristics. RFI: Paria Canyon, Exp. 2 Pine Hollow.	Wilderness inventory would be completed during the ROW application process and BLM would consider citizen proposed wilderness during that time. If there is existing transmission, the existing lines would not be included in lands with wilderness characteristics but could be a boundary to wilderness inventory areas.
Paleontology							
68 116 .013	BLM		Kane, UT	Paleontological resources	Not specified.	Agency Input: Moenkopi Formation (Triassic) and Page Sandstone (Jurassic) has vertebrate tracks.	Major concern in this area is crossing Comb Ridge, which has many localities in the Kayenta Formation and has Chinle Formation at its base. This may not be easily resolved at corridor level planning. During the ROW application process it would be indicated that the high sensitivity area will require monitoring. Survey of route prior to construction and ongoing monitoring during construction would be recommended.
Specially Designated Areas							

Corridor 68 116

Section 368 Energy Corridor Regional Reviews Region 3

December 2017

REGION 3 – CORRIDOR 68 116 ANALYSIS TABLE							
ID	Agency	Agency Jurisdiction	County	Primary Issue	Corridor Location (by Milepost [MP])	Source	Agency Review and Analysis ¹
68 116 .014	BLM	Grand Staircase Escalante NM	Kane, UT	Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument.	MP 20.2 to MP 40.2	Settlement Agreement RFI: re route to avoid Grand Staircase Escalante NM. At a minimum, the corridor should be re routed to existing road ROWs to reduce conflicts with the natural and cultural resources of the NM. GIS Analysis: NM intersects corridor.	Management prescriptions from the Grand Staircase Escalante NM Management Plan allow for utility ROWs in Front Country and Passage Zones and the Outback Zones as long as they meet visual resource objectives. Since the corridor is located within the Front Country and Outback Zones, there are no ROW exclusion or avoidance prescriptions for development of the corridor in the monument.
68 116 .015				WSR	Not specified.	Settlement Agreement. RFI: re route to avoid WSR.	The Section 368 Corridor does not cross any designated Wild and Scenic Rivers. However, it does intersect a suitable segment of the Paria River that is tentatively classified as recreational. Suitable rivers are generally analyzed to ensure that actions do not impact their free flowing condition, outstandingly remarkable values or tentative classification.
68 116 .016			AZ	scenic byway	Not specified.	Settlement Agreement RFI: re route to avoid scenic Byway	There are no BLM backcountry byways, state scenic highways, national scenic byways or all American roads that intersect or are adjacent to or near the corridor and therefore, they are not a consideration for use of the corridor during this regional review. The Fredonia Vermillion Cliffs Scenic Road is a state scenic highway 4.5 miles from the corridor at its closest point.
68 116 .017	BLM	Arizona Strip FO	Coconino, AZ	Vermilion Cliffs National Monument	MP 0 to MP 9.3	GIS Analysis: National Monument adjacent to corridor	The National Monument does not intersect the corridor and is therefore not a consideration for use of the corridor

Corridor 68 116

Section 368 Energy Corridor Regional Reviews Region 3

December 2017

REGION 3 – CORRIDOR 68 116 ANALYSIS TABLE							
ID	Agency	Agency Jurisdiction	County	Primary Issue	Corridor Location (by Milepost [MP])	Source	Agency Review and Analysis ¹
68 116 .018	BLM	Grand Staircase Escalante NM, Kanab, and Arizona Strip FO and State Land	Kane, UT and Coconino, AZ	Paria Canyon Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness Area	MP 20.8 to MP 21.1 MP 1 to MP 9.3, MP 13.2 to MP 20.8, MP 21.1 to MP 30.2	GIS Analysis: wilderness area is adjacent to corridor. GIS Analysis: wilderness area as close as 0.2 mi south of corridor and corridor gap.	The corridor does not cross the Wilderness Area; therefore this is not a consideration for corridor level planning.
68 116 .019	BLM	Arizona Strip FO and state land	Coconino, AZ	Johnson Spring ACEC	MP 47.1 to MP 50.1	GIS Analysis: ACEC as close as 1.4 mi north of corridor and corridor gap.	The ACEC and corridor do not intersect and it is therefore not a consideration for corridor level planning.
68 116 .020	BLM	Arizona Strip FO, Kanab FO	Coconino, AZ and Kane, UT	Sand Hills, Paria Canyon Vermilion Cliffs, Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument Extensive SRMAs	MP 0 to MP 9.4, and MP 20.2 to MP 50.6	GIS Analysis: SRMAs intersect and are adjacent to corridor.	There are no management prescriptions for SRMAs in the Arizona Strip RMP or Kanab RMP that would affect development within the corridor.
Visual Resources							
68 116 .021	BLM	Grand Staircase Escalante NM	Kane, UT	VRM Class I	MP 20.8 to MP 21.1	GIS Analysis: VRM Class I area is adjacent to corridor.	No Class I areas intersect with the corridor, but areas are adjacent and nearby. VRM class objectives are binding land use plan decisions. Transmission facilities must demonstrate that they will conform to the VRM decisions in the land use plan through a hard look visual impact analysis outlined in BLM VRM Contrast Rating Handbook H 8431 1 (VRM MS 8400, BLM 1986). Minimizing visual contrast remains a requirement of applicable VRM class objectives even when the proposed action is in conformance with these VRM class objectives (VRM MS 8400).
68 116 .022	BLM	Arizona Strip FO and Grand Staircase Escalante NM	Coconino, AZ and Kane, UT	VRM Class I	MP 1.4 to MP 9.6 and MP 11.5 to MP 32.1	GIS Analysis: VRM Class I area is as close as 0.2 mi south of corridor.	

Corridor 68 116

Section 368 Energy Corridor Regional Reviews Region 3

December 2017

REGION 3 – CORRIDOR 68 116 ANALYSIS TABLE							
ID	Agency	Agency Jurisdiction	County	Primary Issue	Corridor Location (by Milepost [MP])	Source	Agency Review and Analysis ¹
68 116 .023	BLM	Arizona Strip FO, Grand Staircase Escalante NM	Coconino and Kane, AZ	VRM Class II	MP 0 to MP 9.6, MP 20.6 to MP 27.6, MP 29.3 to MP 30.5, MP 39.8 to MP 40.4, and MP 44.9 to MP 45.5	GIS Analysis: VRM Class II areas intersect and are adjacent to corridor.	VRM class objectives are binding land use plan decisions. Transmission facilities must demonstrate that they will conform to the VRM decisions in the land use plan through a hard look visual impact analysis outlined in BLM VRM Contrast Rating Handbook H 8431.1 (VRM MS 8400, BLM 1986). Minimizing visual contrast remains a requirement of applicable VRM class objectives even when the proposed action is in conformance with these VRM class objectives (VRM MS 8400).
68 116 .024	BLM	Arizona Strip FO, Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument	Coconino, AZ and Kane, UT	VRM Class III	MP 1.7 to MP 9.5, MP 20.2 to MP 20.9, MP 23.7 to MP 24.4, and MP 27.4 to MP 50.6	GIS Analysis: VRM Class III areas intersect and are adjacent to corridor.	
68 116 .025	BLM	Arizona Strip FO	Coconino, AZ	VRM Class IV	MP 0 to MP 9.5 and MP 40.3 to MP 50.6	GIS Analysis: VRM Class IV areas intersect corridor.	While VRM Class IV objectives allow major modification to occur and management activities may dominate the view, minimizing visual contrast remains a requirement of these VRM class objectives. Ratings are required in areas of high sensitivity or high impact (VRM MS 8400).
68 116 .026	BLM	Arizona Strip FO	Coconino, AZ	VRM Class II	MP 0 to MP 9.6	Agency Input: corridor is adjacent to VRM Class II area of Vermillion Cliffs NM. Entire corridor follows 500 kV transmission line with 230 kV transmission line MP 0 to MP 6.8, and 69 kV transmission line MP 0 to 27.4.	Need to evaluate if a corridor level change can address this issue, including considering options for moving the corridor away from the visually sensitive area or out of the sensitive viewshed.
68 116 .027	BLM	Arizona Strip FO	Coconino, AZ	VRM Class II	MP 1 to MP 2.4	Agency Input: corridor overlaps with VRM Class II area.	Need to evaluate if a corridor level change can address this issue, including identifying KOP locations and assessing the potential for future

Corridor 68 116

Section 368 Energy Corridor Regional Reviews Region 3

December 2017

REGION 3 – CORRIDOR 68 116 ANALYSIS TABLE							
ID	Agency	Agency Jurisdiction	County	Primary Issue	Corridor Location (by Milepost [MP])	Source	Agency Review and Analysis ¹
							development to conform to the VRM class objective using the contrast rating process.
68 116 .028	BLM	Arizona Strip FO	Coconino, AZ	VRM Class II	MP 2	Agency Input: fragment of VRM Class III within VRM Class II in corridor.	Need to evaluate if a corridor level change can address this issue.
68 116 .029	BLM	Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument	Kane, UT	VRM Class II	MP 20.6 to MP 27.6 and MP 29.3 to MP 30.5	Agency Input: corridor passes through VRM Class II area.	Need to evaluate if a corridor level change can address this issue, including identifying KOP locations and assessing the potential for future development to conform to the VRM class objective using the contrast rating process.
68 116 .030	BLM	Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument	Kane, UT	VRM Class I	MP 20.8 to MP 21.1	Agency Input: corridor is adjacent to VRM Class I area of Paria Canyon Vermillion Cliffs Wilderness Area. (Kanab FO)	Need to evaluate if a corridor level change can address this issue, including considering options for moving the corridor away from the visually sensitive area or out of the sensitive viewshed.
68 116 .031	BLM	Arizona Strip FO	Coconino, AZ	VRM Class II	MP 40.5 to MP 40.8	Agency Input: corridor contains fragments of VRM Class II and III areas.	Need to evaluate if a corridor level change can address this issue.
68 116 .032	BLM	Arizona Strip FO	Coconino, AZ	VRM Class II	MP 40.5 to MP 40.8; MP 44.9 to MP 49.5	Agency Input: corridor is adjacent to VRM Class II area.	Need to evaluate if a corridor level change can address this issue, including considering options for moving the corridor away from the visually sensitive area or out of the sensitive viewshed.

¹ Projects proposed in the corridor would be reviewed during their ROW application review process and would adhere to federal laws, regulations, and policy.

² The visual analysis is in process.

Abstract Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACEC = Area of Critical Environmental Concern; BLM = Bureau of Land Management; DoD = Department of Defense; FO = Field Office; GIS = geographic information system; IOP = interagency operating procedure; IR = instrument route; LWC = Lands with Wilderness Characteristics; MP = milepost; MS = Manual Section; MTR = military training route; NA = not applicable; NEPA = National Environmental Policy Act; NM = National Monument; NPS = National Park Service; NRA = National Recreation Area; PEIS = Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement; REDA = Renewable Energy Development Area; RFI = request for information; RMP = Resource Management Plan;

Corridor 68 116

Section 368 Energy Corridor Regional Reviews Region 3

December 2017

ROD = Record of Decision; ROW = right of way; SEZ = Solar Energy Zone; SRMA = Special Recreation Management Area; VRM = Visual Resource Management; WSR = Wild and Scenic River; WWEC = West wide Energy Corridor.